

Step 1: Diagnose CKD

Clinical signs and physical examination findings worsen with increasing severity of kidney disease

Clinical presentation

Consider age, sex, breed predispositions, and relevant historical information, including medication history, toxin exposure, and diet.

Can be asymptomatic in early CKD. Signs may include polyuria, polydipsia, weight loss, decreased appetite, lethargy, dehydration, vomiting, and bad breath.

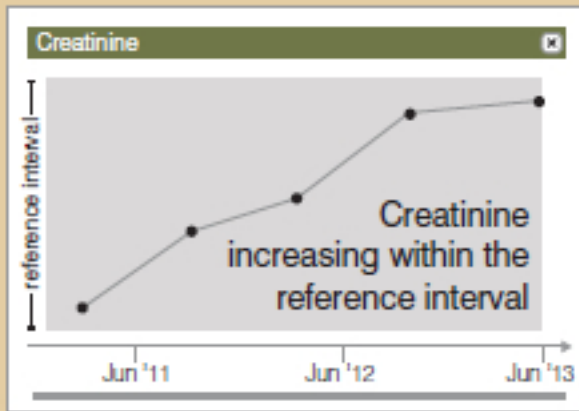
Physical examination findings

Can be normal in early CKD. Findings may include palpable kidney abnormalities, evidence of weight loss, dehydration, pale mucous membranes, uremic ulcers, evidence of hypertension, i.e., retinal hemorrhages/detachment.

To diagnose early CKD

One or more of these diagnostic findings

1



2

Persistent increased SDMA >14 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$

3

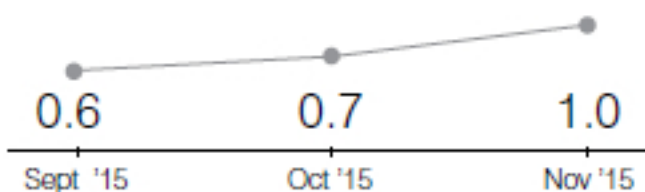
Abnormal kidney imaging



4

Persistent renal proteinuria

UPC >0.5 in dogs; UPC >0.4 in cats



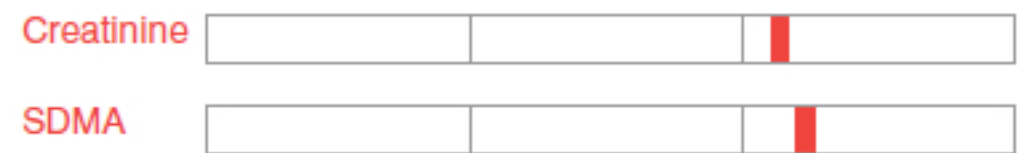
Urine protein to creatinine (UPC) ratio

OR

To diagnose more advanced CKD

Both of these diagnostic findings

1 Increased creatinine and SDMA concentrations



Results of both tests should be interpreted in light of patient's hydration status.

plus

Urine specific gravity <1.030

Urine specific gravity <1.035



1.030

Canine

1.008

1.035

Feline

1.008

2